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2013 FEB -4 AM 11:22

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## Museums & Cultural Affairs

### The City of El Paso Public Arts Committee (PAC) Tuesday, December 11, 2012, 3:30 PM City Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room

#### MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 3:34 pm.
2. **Roll Call: Members Present:** Anna Aleman, Melissa Barba-Espinosa, Kim Bauer, Robert Gonzalez, Floyd Johnson, Jeannine Kennedy, Marina Monsivais (Chair).  
**Members Absent:** Rida Asfahani, Ken Gorski, Jane Thomas.  
**Others Present:** Pat Dalbin, Alejandra Carrillo, Misty Castaneda, Margarita Cabrera.
3. **Public Comment:** None.
4. **Approval of Minutes.** Chair asked for approval of the Minutes for the last meeting on November 13, 2012. Kim Bauer motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Floyd Johnson seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.
5. **Discussion and Action on the 2013 Public Art Plan for the City of El Paso.** Pat Dalbin began by explaining to members that this body meets with City Council annually to present a plan for the following year, which is approved by the Public Art Committee and the Museums and Cultural Affairs Board before being presented to Council. Pat further explained that members would see work we are currently working on and projects for the following year. The purpose of the briefing is to present the 2013 Public Art Plan, new projects, plan locations, proposed budgets, timetables, the artist selection process for each project and updates on projects in progress. Pat continued by giving a brief overview of three projects completed in 2012, projects in progress and upcoming projects. Images were provided for review via a PowerPoint slideshow, and general discussion followed. Chair requested a motion to approve as submitted. Melissa Barba-Espinosa moved to approve; Jeannine Kennedy seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.
6. **Discussion and Action on 2013-2014 Pre-qualified Artist Pool Selection.** Pat Dalbin began by informing members that approximately 300 artists applied for the pre-qualified artist pool, and the Public Art Committee members selected 141 artists for the pool. Marina Monsivais inquired as to how many local artists applied, and Alejandra Carrillo replied there were 17 local applications. Pat added that 10 made the cut, and proceeded to provide images of the selected 141 artists' past work for review via a PowerPoint slideshow. General discussion followed. Jeannine Kennedy asked how an artist pre-qualifies, and Pat explained that an RFQ (Request for Qualifications) is opened up nationally and the Public Art Committee convenes to score the artists online through Café as they have an overall understanding of the Public Art program. The artists are then shortlisted and called for various projects. Chair requested a motion to accept the pre-qualified artist pool. Kim Bauer so moved; Melissa Barba-Espinosa seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.
7. **Discussion and Action on Margarita Cabrera's Design for the Country Club Road Roundabout.** Marina Monsivais began by introducing Margarita Cabrera to the Public Art Committee, explaining she is a local artist selected for a roundabout project. Margarita began by saying the project is exciting to her for two reasons, because the location at Upper Valley and Memory Road is close to home, and because she is inspired by what goes on in this border region. She continued by noting that her work addresses the border region, covering issues that address labor, issues of community, empowerment, immigrant communities and violence. When she receives an invitation to take part in a project, she works with the immigrant community by having them participate and get involved in the process, coming up with subject matter and issues that are important to them. The project is formed around those issues. Margarita went on to explain the concept, design and process of her roundabout project, 'Uplift', providing images of her proposal via a PowerPoint slideshow. She explained that her sculpture would be a representation of a flock of birds at lift-off, aggressively competing with each other to obtain that uplift motion and sense of

freedom in flight. She proposed the form of a bird because it represents peace, hope, movement, transformation and freedom. The birds would be made by hand, out of clay, formed by community members working in pairs at workshops. The birds would be finished in a sand-casting process using melted down gun parts. The idea is for the raw materials to be coming from recycled, confiscated arms. Sheriff Wiles has committed to the project and Margarita's team is in talks with the Chief of Police and Capitan Huerta from the Ciudad Juarez Police Department to obtain their participation and the arms that will be the principal raw material for the making of these birds. The premise is to transform objects relating to death into objects that relate to life and uplifting spiritual creations. Margarita mentioned that she is working with a metals specialist and a structural engineer to ensure that the project is sound and safe for the community. She concluded the presentation with her proposed budget numbers and opened the floor for discussion and questions. General discussion followed. Robert Gonzalez moved to approve the concept; Anna Aleman seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

**8. Adjournment.** Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Melissa Barba-Espinosa moved to adjourn; Jeannine Kennedy seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 4:57 pm. Next meeting scheduled for January 8, 2013.

Approved for content by:  
Patricia Dalbin, Public Art Program Coordinator

Respectfully submitted by:  
Misty Castaneda, Administrative Assistant

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Field/Department

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